

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

DDI # 1679-77/1

Executive Registry

77-3889/7

28 APR 1977 5-17.3

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, National Foreign
Intelligence Board

FROM : CIA Member, National Foreign
Intelligence Board

SUBJECT : Comments on Unclassified Civil
Defense Paper

1. The 20 April 1977 draft for an unclassified civil defense paper poses no difficulty from a security standpoint, but there are several substantive problems arising from the use of material from a 30 November 1976 draft. Some of the material taken from the 30 November draft is obsolete, and does not accurately reflect current judgments.

2. CIA proposals for changes to the current draft are attached. It is my understanding that other NFIB agencies are likely to have similar proposals for changes to the paper. The attached proposed changes have been given to the responsible NIO.

3. As you know, the Department of State has expressed reservations about the release of an unclassified paper at this time. Since the civil defense issue has now been raised in the SALT context, and US-Soviet working groups will begin discussions on this topic shortly, I see value to you in having an NFIB session to review all aspects and views. This, I think, is particularly worthwhile, given the recent examples of public and press perceptions of the motivation and purpose of unclassified release of intelligence related to sensitive policy issues.

/s/ E. H. Knoche

E. H. Knoche

Attachment (EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FILE 8-17.3)



SUBJECT: Comments on Unclassified Civil
Defense Paper

DDI-1679-77/1

CONCUR:

Acting Deputy Director for Intelligence

Date

Distribution:

orig - Chairman, NFIB
1 - NFIB Secretariat
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INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY STAFF

25 April 1977

Return to J. Mc Mahon

Executive Registry
77-3889/6

NOTE FOR ADMIRAL TURNER

SUBJECT: The Proposed Unclassified Text of the
Soviet Civil Defense Program

Sir:

Thompson
4/29/77

From a positive standpoint the paper puts to rest some of the exaggerated claims of Keeganites regarding the Civil Defense Program, but it does inform the U.S. public that the Soviets are far ahead of the U.S. in its efforts for civil defense.

It's conceivable, though stretched, that by noting the specifics of the grain storage bunkers; i.e., 3% of food-grain consumption and less than 1% of total grain, the Soviets might determine just how much we are missing and/or calibrate how good we are from our photo recce. The same is also true to some degree in expressing our knowledge of the Strategic Rocket Forces control centers and commo facilities since a good number of them are camouflaged.

There are some words that have a chilling effect, such as, "The primary casualty-producing effects would probably be from blasts and fire rather than fall-out radiation."

(continued...)

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The questions to ask ourselves are what signals are we conveying and what questions will be asked in the press which will prompt or necessitate further dialogue, such as:

- (1) Is it an attempt by the administration to prepare the U.S. for our own Civil Defense Program?
- (2) Is it an attempt by the administration to embarrass the Soviets in noting their lack of good faith towards SALT II?
- (3) Is the administration attempting to frighten the American people so that there will be less debate over an "easy" SALT II agreement?

[redacted] doesn't share my concerns, but he suggested that I pass them on.

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[redacted]
John N. McMahon
✓ AD/DCI/IC

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